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UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION 10 HANFORD/INL PROJECT OFFICE
309 Bradley Boulevard, Suite 115
Richland, Washington 99352

January 25, 2007

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EDMC

Matthew McCormick
Assistant Manager
U.S. Department of Energy
PO Box 550 (A7-50)
Richland, WA 99352

Subject: RESPONSE TO THE TRANSMITTAL OF THE 200-TW-1 SCAVENGED WASTE GROUP OPERABLE UNIT AND 200-TW-2 TANK WASTE GROUP OPERABLE UNIT REMEDIAL INVESTIGATION/FEASIBILITY STUDY WORK PLAN ADDENDUM, BC CRIBS AND TRENCHES AREA TREATABILITY TEST, DOE/RL-2000-38, REVISION 0, ADDENDUM, DRAFT A

Dear Mr. McCormick:

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has received the Draft Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study Work Plan Addendum for the BC Cribs and Trenches Area Treatability Test. We have reviewed the document and have identified areas that need modification or additional clarification because it seems that some of our previous comments may have been misunderstood.

For example the work plan addendum states that EPA "concluded that insufficient data are available to select a remedial alternative." This statement is not accurate. Our position has been that removing the near surface contaminants and capping provides the highest degree of overall protection of human health and the environment, reduces the risk from principal threat waste more effectively, minimizes the reliance on institutional controls to protect against future exposures, and is consistent with stakeholder values as reflected in advice from the Hanford Advisory Board.

Rather than submitting formal comments at this time, we believe that working directly with your staff is the most efficient and timely approach to making these clarifications. It is our hope to meet with your staff and have this document finalized by February 16, 2007.

The EPA is looking forward to working with your staff. Please feel free to contact me at (509) 376-3749 if you have questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Rod Lobos".

Rod Lobos
Project Manager

cc: Bryan Foley, DOE
Briant Charboneau, DOE

John Price, Ecology
Mark Bennecke, FH

Administrative Record:
200-TW-1 & 200-TW-2